

Conservation Review: 1956



GLACIER PEAK, IMAGE LAKE

Alfred Schmitz

SIERRA CLUB
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Conservation Instinct

It's a force to be reckoned with

IN COMMENTING on the recent Oregon election ex-Governor Charles A. Sprague, editor of the *Oregon Statesman* of Salem, gave a post-mortem on the failure of one candidate to win the election. He stated that it was due to his "inability to interpret the instinct for conservation held throughout the country."

That phrase, "instinct for conservation," is worth considering in some detail. I hope that it won't escape the attention of all elected or appointed officials who have anything to do with the administration of conservation matters.

Webster's New International Dictionary has the following to say about instinct: "As distinguished from habit, instinct is not dependent on the individual's previous experience; as distinguished from emotion, it is a tendency to an external act affecting the environment."

THE SIERRA CLUB,* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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Three different "external acts affecting the environment" have occurred during the past year, all of which have been largely influenced by this type of "instinct." Panther Mountain Dam in the New York Adirondacks, subject of the East's most famous conservation controversy, was decisively defeated by the voters at the November election a year ago over the opposition of the leading politicians of the state; Echo Park Dam in Dinosaur National Monument was dropped from the Upper Colorado Storage Project bill on March 1 by advance agreement with the dam promoters, who recognized the strong "instinct for conservation" throughout the country; and the voters of Eugene, Oregon, listened to the pleading of a small band of devoted conservationists and defeated a bond issue, backed by their own city government, which would have ruined the Upper McKenzie River watershed, one of the finest in the nation.

ONE OF THE favorite arguments of the opponents of conservationists in these controversies is that they are motivated by emotion. A well-known dean of one of our large forestry schools recently referred to these dedicated conservationists as "the daffodil element" in our population. Again according to Webster, this instinct for conservation "as distinguished from emotion is a tendency to an external act affecting the environment." Emotion is fickle and temporary. The continuing successes of those who are working to protect our wilderness areas from destruction bear witness to the fact that they have the "instinct for conservation" on the part of the general public on their side, rather than mere emotion.

To quote once more from editor Sprague's very perceptive analysis: "Conservation is one of the words with real pulling power. To stand for conservation is to have the angels on your side. To be labeled as an anti-conservationist is to be held in league with political devils."

C. EDWARD GRAVES



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... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE ...

Wilderness Is Where You Keep It

FEW conservationists, by the end of 1956, had not heard of the proposal to designate a National Wilderness Preservation System. The proposal recognizes that wilderness exists on various species of Federal lands, thanks to the foresight of administrators of the past. The idea of reserving wilderness is broadly supported. The proposal would accomplish one simple but important objective—give to wilderness, wherever it is set aside, the recognition, dignity, and protection which only an act of Congress can provide. Ten Senators and four Representatives sponsored the bill.

People wanting to know the details of the proposal have been able to read them all—the actual wording of the bill, and key statements by the principal Senate and House authors of the bill, Senator Hubert Humphrey and Congressman John Saylor, as well as comment by leading conservationists—in broadly distributed reprints from the *Congressional Record*.

The proposal has emerged as a carefully thought-out positive program for conservation in which the Sierra Club itself can take a pride of authorship; the idea developed in the course of the series of biennial wilderness conferences sponsored by the club and encouraged and stimulated by the Wilderness Society.

But it has well been said, "Never under-

estimate the difficulty of undertaking a positive program." By late 1956 the traditional foes of wilderness preservation had heard about the proposal too. As was expected from the start, some opposition has developed on the part of lumbering interests, stockmen, and some chamber of commerce groups, and has also been expressed by people closely allied with the two Federal bureaus whose wilderness policy would actually be most strengthened by the proposal—the Forest Service and the Park Service.

In the course of my own year's travels about the country representing the club, I have discovered something consistently and amazingly true of the opponents: they haven't studied the bill!

Part of the present difference of opinion depends upon where a person sits. One of the men who supplied technical assistance in the drafting of the bill—a man high in the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress—commented, "You have certainly left the Forest Service a lot of leeway." And a high Forest Service officer commented on the same section, "You certainly tied our hands tight."

A representative of one of the opposing associations, at a meeting last fall in Tennessee, centered his fire on the Wilderness Council, an information agency the bill would set up, but after a few minutes' dis-

This *Bulletin* presents our third annual review of conservation events and issues, and summarizes the top problems in protecting national scenic resources, from the Sierra Club's point of view.

cussion he backed up, saying, "I guess I'd better read the bill."

The users of the commercial commodities of national forests who have opposed the wilderness system have invariably professed great admiration for wilderness. Just as invariably they have cited the "multiple use" in their opposing resolutions, which express the fear that the system would do violence to multiple use—or at least to the single use which most interests them.

As Trustees for Conservation pointed out, however, wilderness use is multiple use in perpetuity. Wilderness provides for watershed and habitat protection, hunting, trail camping, scientific study in a natural laboratory. The only uses excluded are the single uses which would destroy the area as wilderness. All the other multiple wilderness uses can go on as long as people want them to; they can always be sacrificed for a single commercial use—lumbering, mining, or damming—whenever some future generation decides that economic values are more important than inspirational or scientific values.

What is "multiple use"?

As Ernest Swift, Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation has said:

Nothing will be solved in debate until there is a better understanding and common denominator for the term "multiple use." Does multiple use contemplate all uses on every acre, or does it mean all uses as applied to a "forest" as an entire unit? Does government land descriptions have any affinity with multiple use?

I cannot help but conclude that the A.F.A. [American Forestry Association] and many other professionals mean uses on every acre, whereas other professionals interpret it to mean the several uses on an entire "forest" basis.

If the first interpretation is correct it would mean logging, watershed protection, grazing, wildlife and wilderness on every acre, although not necessarily equal uses for all. If the second interpretation is correct it would mean multiple use by land classification, wherein a part of the forest would be used primarily for timber production, another part primarily for watershed protection, another primarily for grazing, still others primarily for wildlife and others again for wilderness areas. In every instance in this latter interpretation at least one or more uses would be compatible, but not all on every acre.

Professor Grant McConnell, political scientist, puts it this way:

The multiple-use policy can be made relevant to the needs of today only if it is re-founded on a determination to preserve the values that are essential to a healthy civilization and on a recognition that all values cannot be mixed without the extinction of some by others. Many areas can properly support a mingling of logging, grazing, recreation, and other uses. A few areas, those in which wilderness and scenic grandeur are of a superlative order, must be zoned for their highest purpose and exploitation firmly excluded. These are not the playgrounds of the nation, but rather its sanctuaries.

Why include the parks?

In the last decade at least, many attempts have been made to have the National Park Service zone its areas of wilderness. The customary reply has been, "But the parks are *all* wilderness—except for the areas necessary for development." This, however, is not argument against zoning; it merely states that a certain kind of zoning has happened by chance. We have had national parks in a system now for forty years—fifty years by the time Mission 66 winds up. Half a century in which the best talent the National Park Service could assemble will have determined how much land is needed for development and how much should remain wilderness. The Wilderness System bill would give this talent Congressional recognition and help make the determination stick—"strengthen the hand of the good administrator and steady the hand of the weak one."

As Howard Zahniser, Executive Secretary of The Wilderness Society, points out, existing legislation does not insure the preservation of national-park wilderness:

Under the existing legislation all the roads and buildings now in the parks and monuments have been constructed, and more and more could be built. There is nothing in our legislation now to protect future administrators from mounting pressures to use more and more of the back country for developments that would destroy them as wilderness.

The proposed Wilderness Bill would provide protection by making wilderness preservation a paramount Congressional purpose.

Yet the bill deals realistically with the needs for accommodations. It gives authority to designate for this purpose whatever areas are needed.

But the public will have a chance to know what is contemplated, instead of knowing only what is *fait accompli*. Naturally, this would make the life of the administrator more complicated. Wilderness, however, would be the winner.

It seems to us that the clinching point can be briefly stated: Of all the commitments of land to various uses, only the commitment of wilderness is revocable at any time. Res-

ervoirs, highways, resorts, mines, logged-over forests, are there to stay; at least, their marks are. These forms of exploitation are all good enough in their own right, but we don't want or need them everywhere. We do want islands of wilderness among them, or settings of wilderness around them. Wilderness protection is paper thin, and the paper should be the best we can get—that upon which Congress prints its acts.

Wilderness is where we find it. It will last only where we consciously decide to keep it.

DAVID R. BROWER

California and the Engineers

Transformation of California's natural scene for the utilitarian needs of man—a process that began in striking fashion with the discovery of gold in 1848—is foreshadowed in its ultimate consequences in the *California Water Plan*, released by the State Water Resources Board last May. The scheme is a daring one, financially and as a feat of engineering. It staggers the imagination. Its impact on the mountains, as well as the valleys, could reduce our parks, forest wilderness and wildlife to a handful of museum exhibits.

In a sentence, this \$11,300,000,000 worth of dams, reservoirs, aqueducts and related facilities would harness every sizable stream in the state, transporting the water from "areas of surplus" to "areas of need." Thus the engineers would "correct nature's injustice in giving most of California's water to the north and most of the needs to the south."

To supply the surging population and the vast industrial and agricultural complex, some 270 major reservoirs and 88 major hydroelectric plants are projected, to export about 21,200,000 acre feet of water annually from the area north of Sacramento to deficient areas of the state through a "California Aqueduct System" of riverbeds, canals and tunnels. Much of the power to be produced would be required to pump the water over the Tehachapi range.

The *California Water Plan* as published is

a "preliminary edition—subject to revision." A series of hearings was held throughout the state, concluding in Sacramento on October 4, at which some interested groups expressed their views on the plan. This month the proposal goes to the Legislature for consideration. It will be many years before the total scheme is realized.

From one point of view, it may be a matter of pride that such a masterful conception could be set down by humankind in our time and place, and could become a reality through the work of hands and tools.

There is another point of view which we can only suggest here: Would it not be a matter of greater pride if the plan, as worked out, provided for the full needs of a civilized race of Californians, spiritual and mental and muscular needs that will never be satisfied by a mechanical system of dams and conduits and faucets? Many of us will always thirst for the green and wet and granite of the unaltered high watersheds, for the beauty of parks and wilderness where the streams run at will, and the deer and trout and quail share the quiet with light-stepping visitors.

Let us at least raise our voices in behalf of a genuinely humane interpretation of the purposes announced by the Water Resources Board, which include "maintenance of water quality, and provisions for fish, wildlife and recreation in the various portions of the State."

F. G.



APPROACHING NORTH FORK, SAN JOAQUIN

George Ballis

Our Vanishing Wilderness

WHEN great-grandpa cleared his woods for pasture a hundred years ago, nobody gave it a second thought. He needed pasture land, and there were plenty of trees over the hill for those who wanted them. Seventy-five years ago, the men who logged off the Oregon hills were folk-heroes—mighty frontiersmen who were boosting our economy. And there were endless forests for them to cut, or so it seemed. The shepherds who ran their sheep through Guyot Meadows fifty years ago did so in good conscience; they had the whole great Sierra range to wander when they used up the forage there.

Great-grandpa, the logger and the shepherd all had free choice to utilize the land as they saw fit . . . and they thought of their natural resources as infinite.

Despite the fact that they used these resources with little thought for land protec-

tion or for the future, we are lucky today. They did leave us some woods, even if the supply of "trees over the hills" is slim. Although the skyline of many Oregon hills is mutilated and ragged with scrub, we still have virgin forests—a few. There are occasional ungrazed meadows in the Sierra for us to delight in, despite the fact that Guyot Flat is now a desert. Yes, we are lucky, for we still have a vestige of wilderness left us.

But what about our great-grandchildren? Will they be so lucky? Are we leaving for them any virgin trees or untouched mountain meadows—any real wilderness, or undeveloped land? Are we to utilize for our convenience and economy everything that is now left?

It is in the American tradition to consider our undeveloped land and wilderness very much as great-grandpa did. We like to think

of our "boundless" plains—of the fields and forests of our country stretching endlessly. We like to think that we have such a plethora of land that each man can do just as he pleases with his piece of it.

But we have some hard facts to face. With our recent tremendous surge in population we have already reached a density of some 60 people to the square mile; and our population is due to double in the next fifty years. We have less than 3 per cent of our total land in our National Park System; that is estimated to be less area than we now have under concrete in streets and highways and buildings. We have 13,000,000 acres in designated wilderness status in our National Forests. That is a good deal less than 1/100th of an acre per capita. We still have available a little land for homesteading: this is desert land and it constitutes a fraction of a percent of our public lands. We have a few million acres in wildlife refuges. And we have some undeveloped land in private hands.

A Heritage for the Future

This is the land asset about which we can make a choice. But why a choice now? Isn't our public land already protected? Aren't our National Parks and Forests safe for future generations? Isn't it all right to let private lands be developed as they usually have been—haphazardly? Why should we concern ourselves?

The answer is simple: we must concern ourselves or our great-grandchildren will find their heritage of wilderness and undeveloped land meagre indeed. The current trend in our democracy is toward total economic development of our remaining land resources. Unless this trend is corrected, those who follow us will know little of the American earth as we know it today. They will climb a Mt. Tamalpais to look out over a sea of row-houses, not the gentle rolling hills we now enjoy. They will climb a Sierra peak to look out over a checker-board of sustained-yield logging, criss-crossed with roads, not over the sweeping green mantle of trees that charms our eyes today. They will drive to the base of Glacier Peak over a former mine-to-market road—and look at the mountain over mounds of tailings.

THE BASIC issue underlying the many problems which are concerning conservationists today is protection of our land. In all of the articles in the Bulletin this month, you will find this issue stressed in one way or another, usually as it applies to one unit of land. This theme article is a plea for over-all protection of our remaining undeveloped and wilderness land. The need is vital today—while we still have such land to protect. For no matter how highly civilized we are, we are still essentially creatures of nature. We need the land for sustenance—both physical and spiritual. We need it in its natural state to guide us in our utilization of it. We need it for its essential beauty. Perhaps most importantly, we need a portion of it, untouched, to remind us and our children that it is not we who created this earth.

While our present laws give lip service to protecting our public lands against overdevelopment and economic exploitation, the sad fact is that this protection is inadequate. There are chinks in the armor guarding our National Parks; our present National Forest policy of "multiple use" fosters wilderness preservation too little; our wildlife refuges are helpless before the invasion of economic development.

Let's Look First at Our National Parks

What are the chinks in the armor guarding them? Most obvious and immediate are those which allow our parks to be developed and exploited for non-park purposes. A tramway up Mt. Rainier, the logging of Olympic National Park, the building of an urban church on the rim of Grand Canyon—demands like these are constant.

Unfortunately, our parks have only the weapon of an aroused public to counter such an onslaught as the Rayonier Company has organized in its effort to log the Olympics. Back of this onslaught are the Almighty Dollar and an organized advertising campaign. The parks cannot fight this kind of fire with like fire: they must depend upon their friends to defend their integrity.



*Wilderness forest in
Glacier Peak Limited Area
(Philip Hyde)*

Another chink in our parks armor is that which would allow for power development. All of us are familiar with the recent battle over Echo Park Dam—vivid illustration of the fact that there is not adequate legal protection against park invasion for power and water purposes.

Least obvious but most serious of the dangers our parks face is that of over-development to meet the demands of our burgeoning populace. New roads, new trails, new sanitary facilities, new administration buildings, etc.—these are important, but they do not “preserve the natural scene.”

What About Our National Forests?

It is a disquieting fact that wilderness protection is not a part of our basic Forest Service Act, and yet some of the most beautiful scenery and the finest wilderness which we now have lies within our National Forests. The Forest Service Act provides for the protection and development of our watershed and timber resources, and it allows for the development of mineral resources within

the National Forests. Protection of our National Forest wilderness—and recreation within our forests—has been by wise dispensation of the Secretary of Agriculture, but it has never been given legal status by Congress.

This means that our National Forest Wilderness Areas have always been subject to invasion for economic development, and they face the continuous threat of further such development.

For example, mining has always been allowed in our National Forests. The result? 20 of the 28 large wilderness areas in the West are riddled with upward of 500 mining claims, and new claims are being staked almost daily. Only a few of these claims are important commercially, yet any which are producing minerals can be patented under our present mining laws, and eventually pass into private ownership. Furthermore, our present laws guarantee the right of entry to these claims. This means that roads pierce many of our wilderness areas. While these roads supposedly are not open to public use, there are not enough Forest Service rangers to police them adequately.

Forest Service Air Strips

Add to this the fact that there are hundreds of private inholdings in our National Forests—some 145,000 acres inside of 15 areas in the West. These inholdings may be timber operations, summer homes, resorts, mining claims; they all mean more roads—or air strips. There are at least seven private air landing strips in six of our large wilderness areas, most of them open to public use.

The Forest Service itself has many air strips in wilderness areas to facilitate fire fighting. While these are necessary, it is difficult to keep them from public use, and probably half of the Forest Service landing fields are in public use.

While much of our National Forest wilderness now receives the strongest protection possible under Regulation U-2, a good deal is still in “primitive” or “limited” areas

which are in the process of being reclassified. In reclassifying these areas, the Forest Service is guided by the philosophy of "multiple use." According to this philosophy, every consideration must be given to the economic potentials in any wilderness area, along with the immeasurable non-economic value. It is therefore sometimes difficult for Forest Service personnel to regard a virgin tree in any terms other than board feet, or to reclassify as wilderness an area with mining possibilities.

A great percentage of our Forest Service land which we enjoy today—and think of as wilderness—is not officially designated as Wild or Wilderness Area, and has virtually no protection at all. This is the land which lies within a "working circle" of a Forest Service region, but which has not yet been reached for logging. Or it may be land which has as yet received no classification at all, but which will probably fall into a future "working circle." Some of the land in this last category will probably be classified for developed recreational use. Under the new Forest Service regulations for recreational development, this land will be managed for timber as well as recreation, thereby fulfilling its "multiple use" potential.

Undeveloped Private Lands

The abuse of our private lands, and the lack of regard for the public good in the development of these lands is so familiar that most of us take it for granted. Time and again, legislation to protect our lands is passed only after the damage is done. We enact our anti-pollution laws after our streams are already polluted; we attempt to correct erosion after we have a "dust bowl"; we tear down houses for park space after allowing them to be built.

With more careful planning and zoning there is no reason why our private land development cannot embody protection for the land.

What Shall We Do?

A basic tenet of our American tradition is to ennoble "development" and "progress," and to welcome their inevitability. To exploit our land has been a popular concept

Forever Lost

The state of Ohio, containing about 40,000 square miles, was once a magnificent hardwood forest. The forest types, thanks to the records of early surveyors, have been largely mapped. Yet it is almost impossible to form an adequate picture, from any surviving records, of the appearance of that forest. The state has its full share of memorials—statues, libraries, institutions; some useful, some not; some beautiful, some ugly. But somehow it never occurred to anyone to set aside a square mile, much less a township six miles square, of primeval vegetation for future generations to see and enjoy. Yet this could have been done for less than the cost of a single pile of stone of dubious artistic and cultural merit.

PAUL B. SEARS

since great-grandpa's time. But heedless exploitation of natural resources can't go on forever. There are only so many virgin trees left standing, only so much oil in our earth, only so much land suitable—and available—for public parks. We are already much closer than we realize to the bottom of our bucket, and one fine morning we are going to find it dry, unless we change our way of doing things. How?

Charity begins at home—so does a way of thinking. The first step is for each of us to make our own choice. Do we desire any natural values, any native land? Do we want strong legal protection for our wilderness lands? Do we want a National Wilderness System bill passed by our Congress to make this protection binding? Do we want the kind of local zoning that takes the public interest into account above some individual's pocketbook? Do we want to revise our National Forest Act? Do we agree thoroughly with current Forest Service policy?

When we have answered these questions, we can take our second step. We can let other people know what we think—our friends, our neighbors, and most important of all, our legislators. Our government reflects the will of the people—if the people make themselves heard.

PEGGY and EDGAR WAYBURN

First Survey by U. S. Agency

Anglers, Hunters Spend Billions

BECAUSE hunters and fishermen need the same sort of recreation areas that hikers, nature observers, and other conservation-minded people do, the result of the first national survey of fishing and hunting in the United States should be encouraging. It will show doubting citizens not only that a vast number of people use and like and need the forests and mountains, but that economically it is a lucrative business; it *pays*. And as Ned Graves of the National Parks Association suggests, in describing the survey, that should appeal to the hard-headed businessmen who object to "locking up our natural resources" in this way.

This survey, scientifically carried out, was made under the direction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the recommendation of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, as a basis for a better understanding of the recreational value of hunting and fishing in terms of financial outlay and individual participation. The data pertained to the calendar year 1955, and to persons at least 12 years old. About 20,000 homes were contacted in a representative cross-section of the nation, and 6,220 anglers and 3,108 hunters were interviewed.

Consider this: "Twenty-five million American anglers and hunters spent nearly three billion dollars for 500 million days of sport—and drove their automobiles more than ten billion miles and spent an average of \$114.42 apiece in the pursuit of these recreations in 1955." The average fisherman spent \$91.98 and the average hunter \$79.49. More than seven million of these individuals both hunted and fished, which accounts for the general average of \$114.42 per person.

Survey Available

"National Survey of Fishing and Hunting," the complete report, has been published in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Circular 44. It may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., at 40 cents a copy.

If you add all the other visitors to the National Parks and other public recreation areas, those who register and those who do not, picnickers, tourists, campers, climbers, hikers, boaters and others, it is estimated that more than 50 million use these areas annually.

That big a section of the American public will be heard by the policy-makers and administrators, when it finds its voice.

H.T.P.

Dinosaur Preserved; National Park Next

A year ago, in our "Conservation Review, 1956," we were able to announce with assurance that conservationist forces had won the battle of Dinosaur National Monument. It remained for Congress to pass the revised Upper Colorado River Project Act, authorizing a \$760,000,000 network of four major dams and 11 participating projects, but excluding a dam at Echo Park in Dinosaur.

The bill, which President Eisenhower signed in April, included two amendments specifically worded to protect the National Park System. One declared: "It is the intention of Congress that no dam or reservoir constructed under the authorization of this Act shall be within any national park or monument." The other was concerned with the protection of Rainbow Bridge.

Subsequently, bills were introduced by two members of the House, John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania and Wayne N. Aspinall of Colorado, to give Dinosaur the increased safeguards provided by full status as a National Park. To the 209,744 acres of the monument there would be added a net of 27,246 acres—10,080 acres of present lands would be excluded. These bills arrived too late for consideration, and must be introduced again in the 85th Congress.

Meanwhile, the first rock has been blasted at the dam sites and the huge water development project is under way. But not at Echo Park.

Mission 66: Parks' 10-Year Plan

THE BIGGEST conservation news story of the past year was the announcement—with great and appropriate fanfare—of Mission 66.

This ten-year program for the National Park Service will see a total of more than three-quarters of a billion dollars spent by 1966—the 50th anniversary of the Service.

Almost half a billion will go for new buildings, new roads, new trails, new utility services, and vast improvements to existing facilities.

The desperate need for such an immense program has long been obvious: 55 million people last year used a network of National Parks and Monuments designed to handle fewer than half that number. By 1966 visitors are expected to reach the staggering total of 80 million each year.

The conception of Mission 66 is grand. Park Service planners have drawn up a creed to guide their actions, and the creed contains such points as these:

“Provide the services which will make the parks more usable, more enjoyable, and more meaningful, and thereby improve the protection of the parks through visitor cooperation.”

“Provide for the protection and preservation of the wilderness areas within the National Park System and encourage their appreciation and enjoyment in ways that will leave them unimpaired.”

Mission 66 won formal Congressional approval last year when appropriations were voted for the first year of the huge project. As a result, the Park Service budget rose in one jump from less than \$49 million to more than \$68 million. There were million-dollar increases for management and protection, for maintenance and physical rehabilitation. There was a \$7 million boost for construction of new buildings and acquisition of new land and water rights. There was a \$10 million increase in funds for road building and improvements. All this in a single year!

Reading the detailed plans for Mission 66—as far as they have been released publicly

—discloses some heartening news.

The general thinking of the planners seems to be to build new visitor facilities as much as possible on the edges or even outside the parks.

Information centers and exhibits on each park will, of course, be located within the park area. All the existing ones will be renovated, and 109 new ones will be built. Campfire circles and amphitheatres to handle evening programs will be expanded—a total of 96 are planned.

But even within that frame of reference, which certainly implies concentration of visitors, the Park Service planners promise “the discouragement of spectator events or artificial recreational activities more appropriate to commercial resorts outside the parks.”

As for overnight visitors, the Mission 66 planners expect construction of 28,000 additional lodging units—three-quarters of them built by concessionaires. Roadside campground capacity is to increase from 12,000 to 25,000.

But here again, the planners promise, “the construction of additional overnight facilities, both camp and lodge type, will be encouraged outside of and adjacent to the parks.”

There seems to be a marked trend toward moving the homes of park employees to points outside the boundaries too.

ROADS will be improved on a vast scale—which will inevitably mean more cars—but in general the planners say they want no expressways, and speak of spending money on turn-outs at scenic points. There is little indication that Mission 66 will mean any new highways into the wilderness backcountry of the parks. The planners say that out of 2000 miles of road work envisaged for all the parks, only 300 miles will be new mileage. About 1500 miles of trail construction is expected.

Mission 66, in the eyes of its conceivers, is more than just a building program. Funds have been budgeted for increases in the Park

Ranger staffs, for expansion of information programs designed to imbue park visitors with a real appreciation of what the National Park experience is all about, and even for an admittedly "modest" expansion of wildlife and ecological research.

In addition—and if it bears fruit this may be one of the most significant features of Mission 66—there is provision for development of a genuine National Recreation Plan.

There are still some disquieting aspects of Mission 66 that will bear close watching, however.

For one thing, the program has been conceived and elaborated with surprisingly little attempt at consultation among major conservation organizations and other non-government agencies whose resources include a wealth of experience in the field of wilderness use and protection.

For another, it is still impossible to determine precisely how the high ideals of Mission 66 will translate themselves into actual practice. Many of the plans for individual parks have not yet been released publicly, and until they are the public cannot bring its own opinions to bear on the projects. There have been no public hearings on the Mission 66 plans, nor—unless Congress demands—are there likely to be.

A CASE in point is Mt. Rainier. The controversy over this park antedates the publication of Mission 66, for it was more than a year ago that the Secretary of the Interior finally announced his decision to ban construction of a full-scale mechanical tramway up the side of the unspoiled mountain.

That tramway project, loudly and skillfully supported by local Chamber of Commerce groups, was defeated only after vigorous opposition by the Sierra Club and other conservation groups in the Northwest.

But the organizations supporting commercial development of the park area won at least a partial victory when they received permission to install a mile-long system of T-Bars—mechanical ski lifts—up the mountain.

Now, in Mission 66, the planners talk of expanding the T-Bars: "Operators of con-

A new National Park was created last August, when the President signed a bill establishing the Virgin Islands National Park. The completed park will include about 10,000 acres on the island of St. John and adjacent rocks and cays. A gift of land by Laurance S. Rockefeller made this possible.

cession facilities operated for visitor service and enjoyment at Paradise and Cayuse Pass," says the Park Service, "will be encouraged to expand operations and install additional demountable ski tows of the type that can be removed in the spring."

It is true that at Mt. Rainier the authors of Mission 66 plan a laudable project to move the park's entire administrative headquarters outside the park area. Campsites will be kept within the park, but dilapidated hotel and lodge accommodations will be removed, and "development by private enterprise of hotel, motel and other types of overnight accommodations on more suitable lower levels will be encouraged."

All this is praiseworthy. But for the years to come, as Park Service appropriations grow and grow with the implementation of Mission 66, it will require constant vigilance on the part of park users to make sure that the ideals of wilderness preservation and retention of spiritual values remain paramount over the pressures of mass exploitation.

DAVID PERLMAN

Beaver Marsh Dam Again Poses Threat

The Eugene Water and Electric Board has petitioned the Federal Power Commission for an amendment to its license for the Beaver Marsh Project, extending the time—two years beyond the former expiration date, about the end of 1956. The Save the McKenzie River Association has filed a brief objecting to the extension, and asking for a hearing before the Commission.

Numerous other organizations and individuals are writing the Commission urging denial on the grounds that the people of Eugene voted to reject the project, and that need for such areas is growing.



The Incomparable Valley, 1956

(with too many of us alone, together)

THE GROVES, which were God's first temples, have become man's worst tenements during the height of any summer season in Yosemite Valley, where cars and tents and canned goods and portable radios and occasionally a bear and always a host of many, many displaced city persons carpet the primeval woods, their campfires sending up to heaven a gift from their seagirt city pasts: smog.

All appetites are conditioned, and it is too late to un-condition the desire for solitude and wilderness and the far-off granite fairyland that has been planted in us multitudes—given us as part of our unalienable rights, along with the car and the paid vacation and the free road map. Yosemite's campgrounds afford us the conveniences to leave care behind, to venture into God's unspoiled piney woods, and even as it was said in that song of our youth, to be alone, together—all together, even into the



reaches of the night, where snoring in a variety of pitches, near and far, drowns out the song of frog and cricket, and the mosquito's serenade.

Is this what comes of popularizing a wilderness? Can the Valley support even more admirers, who are bound to come? This calls for sober thought while we try to preserve our sense of humor and humanity, among the multitudes.

KEVIN WALLACE



*The Sierra Club
has presented a
positive program
for Yosemite . . .
(next page)*

A Program for Yosemite Valley

THE OBJECTIVE: To return Yosemite Valley to the maximum possible condition of "wild" quality, yet at the same time to render it accessible and available to all who specifically seek its intrinsic values.

—ANSEL ADAMS

SIERRANS are well aware that this goal, implicit in the basic National Park law, can be reached only by walking the fence between "wildness" on the one hand and "accessibility" on the other.

The problem will never be finally solved, either at Yosemite or in the other National Parks and wilderness areas. Conservationists must be prepared for continuous compromise with ultimate concepts of wilderness.

But the compromise existing in Yosemite Valley is a bad one and its badness has long been recognized.

This year there is a chance that the existing imbalance between wildness and availability may be partially redressed—that the Valley may be restored to something like the place it was before the automobile age.

That chance rests mainly on two things: The money Congress is putting into the "Mission 66" program of the National Park Service, and the interest that conservationists, and particularly the Sierra Club, take in the way the money is spent.

The NPS budget this year is up nearly 50 per cent to about \$66,000,000. Next year it is expected to be even bigger. Yosemite, one of the largest and most important of the National Parks, will get a fair share of these funds.

THE IMMEDIATE objective of the Sierra Club must be to see that it is not all spent for roads and buildings—at least, not roads and buildings in the already urbanized valley.

Parallel to that objective, the Sierra Club hopes that a good part of the Yosemite money will be spent to decrease urbanization.

Luckily, the NPS officials responsible for the Yosemite program have the same basic objective. Superintendent John Preston and

his staff have prepared a master plan for the park. The contents have not been made public, but Mr. Preston told the club's directors last September:

"Gentlemen, I can tell you we are not very far apart on any important point."

He said this after hearing the report on the future of Yosemite Valley prepared by a special subcommittee of the club's Conservation Committee.

THE REPORT is in two parts. The first, written by Ansel Adams, outlines the problem in broad terms. The second part, offered as the summation of the subcommittee, headed by D. Hanson Grubb, outlines the specific changes the club wants to see made in Yosemite Valley.

"Yosemite is urbanized and obviously overdeveloped," wrote Mr. Adams. Both the government and private concessionaires have done this—the government to encourage public support and favor for the park service; the Yosemite Park & Curry Co. to make its operations financially stable, to make money, and to carry out its concept of public service.

Mr. Adams suggested, and the directors agreed by adopting the report, that:

"We should base our plan and action on what we would do if Yosemite Valley were in the same state of wildness as, for instance, the Little Yosemite or the Illilouette Basin . . . the status quo should not influence the integrity or the simplicity of our plan.

"The values of Yosemite Valley are not related to the economic situation of the operators nor to the political situation of the Park Service."

Then, recognizing that these factors can't really be ignored, his report added:

"This ideal approach would be difficult, but my plea is for our plan to be as precise and complete as possible; the practical solutions will be more positive if the objectives are heroic."

The report warned that it would confuse the issue to criticize either the Curry Co. or the Park Service for providing poor or in-

*Is this the way park visitors
should see Yosemite Falls?*

(Martin Litton)

adequate service. "The services and facilities are quite superior . . . we must be careful not to becloud our argument with erroneous criticisms."

The report next urged against using "democracy" as a defense for the present overdevelopment of Yosemite Valley.

"Democracy does not imply destruction or dilution of great natural resources belonging to all the people. It enforces protection of the resources . . . as well as protection of minority needs and aspirations . . ."

The Adams-written report next called attention to the investments of the government (\$30,000,000) and the Curry Co. (\$6,000,000) in the park, and asked if the private tail is not wagging the public dog.

A really good plan for restoring some semblance of wilderness to Yosemite Valley is going to cost plenty of money, Part I of the report concluded, but "such cost is entirely justifiable in comparison to the priceless intangible values of Yosemite."

PART II began by quoting scripture—in this case, the Mission 66 program itself: "Existing facilities . . . will be relocated in more suitable locations . . . where they now intrude on unique park features."

Then it embarked on a series of specific recommendations:

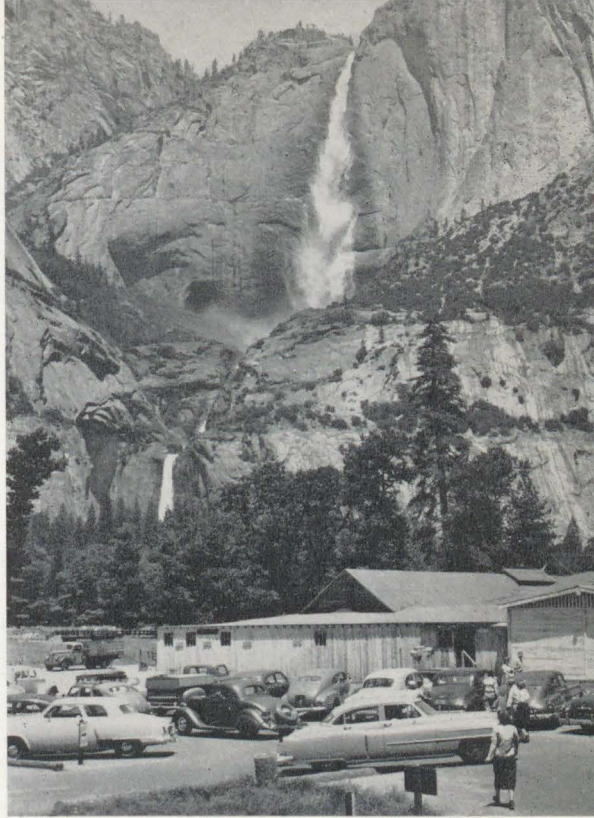
- "Freeze all hotel and camp capacities for at least one year, to allow time for careful analysis . . ."

- Decide which NPS and Curry Co. employees must remain in the Valley at night, and which can be moved out. The purpose, of course, is to permit elimination of some house, dormitory, and service facilities, and to reduce warehousing to a minimum.

(Superintendent Preston told the club directors he believed at least half of the present NPS staff (130) could be removed from the Valley without injury to efficiency or safety.)

- "Acquire land at Big Meadow, Wawona, or El Portal, or at the end of the old Big Oak Flat Road, on which new buildings . . . can be built . . ."

(It is understood the Yosemite master



plan contains a specific recommendation on this.)

- Put utility poles, wires, and pipes underground. This is to be done gradually. Redesign street and road light supports to blend into the forest background.

- Replace the present city-type phone booths with small, waterproof boxes, like police phones.

- Incinerate garbage and waste well outside the Valley, and use modern methods to reduce smoke. Study the effect of so many camp fires on the Valley's smog problem.

- Abandon the gravel and sand borrow pits, like the one near Bridal Veil Meadow; and replant them with trees. Open future pits along the lower Merced River or elsewhere outside the Valley.

- Broaden roads only when really necessary; make all roads curving, for beauty and to slow traffic; provide more stopping places to look at views; eliminate some roads and replant groves and meadows.

- Define camp sites more clearly—like the California state park camps, for example—with fixed fireplaces, water supply, rest rooms, and parking spaces.

- "Eliminate riverside camping, to permit free public access to the Merced."

- Reduce camp sites at the east end of the Valley and create new ones downriver.

- Have better ranger supervision of the public camps, both day and night; and increase the naturalist services of the rangers.

- "De-emphasize conventional resort-type entertainment of all kinds."

- "Provide large, readily readable boards at all three western park entrances, indicating occupancy of public camps, so that parties without reservations can be directed to proper locations."

- If the Valley floor is full, rangers should send visitors to camp grounds outside the Valley—at Wawona, Upper Bridal Veil, or Tamarack Flat, for example. The NPS and the Forest Service should consider creating new camps.

- Establish sightseeing trains, like the Elephant Trains at the Treasure Island Exposition, to reduce auto congestion.

- Charge an entrance fee for each visit, and eliminate the annual fee.



That is the club's program for Yosemite Valley. It remains to be seen if the NPS master plan differs from this on any important point.

But even if the Park Service plan exactly coincides with the club's, the plan will not automatically be carried out. The Sierra Club Conservation Committee and individual members must continue through the years to make sure that the Congress and the National Park Service understand and implement the conservationist view of the best use of the incomparable Valley.

GEORGE DUSHECK

Nevada's Prospective National Park

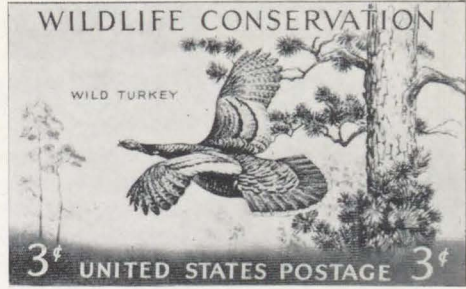
Almost all of Nevada's 200 mountain ranges offer surprises. The Snake Range near the Utah border is one of the finest of these, dominated by Mt. Wheeler, 13,061 feet. Like the others, it rises out of vast desert and unless one leaves the main highway he can never guess what high wonderland of streams, forests, timberline meadows, cliffs and lakes it conceals.

Nevadans generally were delighted at Weldon Heald's account of his explorations and discovery of a living glacier on the northeast face of Mt. Wheeler, and his proposal that it be considered for National Park status. The Park and Forest Services made a three-day reconnaissance in August and Weldon Heald and I were invited to come along. All were impressed by the high quality of alpine scenery, by abundant plant and animal life, and by the 1,500- to 2,000-foot cliffs which surround the lakes and almost conceal the glacier itself. The glacier is a

small one and is not the chief feature of the area. To the south is Dry Wash, a deep canyon marvelous for fantastic rock formations. A new National Park would, of course, include Lehman Caves, now a National Monument.

The conclusions of the services haven't yet been published. There is, so far, little opposition to the creation of a park. Conflicting uses are not extensive. A few ranchers run a few hundred head of cattle in the range and fewer sheepmen also would be personally affected. There is some mining, including one fairly large operation low on the western slope. Another practical consideration involves the still unknown cost of developing the area as a park without at the same time seriously injuring it. If the Park Service reports favorably, the proposal will undoubtedly get support from Nevadans in Congress.

LESLIE H. GOULD



Three wildlife stamps were issued in 1956; the artist, Bob Hines

Wildlife Refuges Need Further Protection

WITH the ever recurrent questions—how safe are our Wildlife Refuges, how well-protected are they, can public opinion and the steps that have been taken so far guarantee continued protection—it becomes more apparent that there must be some over-all plan such as the projected Scenic Resources Review can help bring forth with its study and action program.

The state of the refuges is not too promising. We were encouraged by the decision of the Secretary of the Interior, which saved the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge from Army encroachment. But further efforts continue to be made by the Army, which has been acquiring private property on the borders of the refuge, and it is felt that the Wichita threat will rise again. Other disturbing actions include leasing in most of the Wildlife Refuges to oil and gas interests, and a reclamation project which more than threatens the Lower Klamath and Tule Lake Wildfowl refuges.

There are a number of bills coming up in 1957 which aim at protection of wildlife, but it is evident that there will be just as many on the other side.

Early in the year, David Brower spoke before the subcommittee on merchant marine and fisheries of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of the U.S. Senate, supporting congressional protection of Wildlife Refuges; and similarly before the House hearing on the same legislation. "We believe," he said, "there is need for congressional protection of the dedicated lands in the national system of Wildlife Refuges, and

we support the idea that they should not be dropped from the system without the consent of the Congress. We believe that such provision will provide the best—and traditional—opportunity for the people to be heard on those occasions when there is need for them to be heard.

Blister Rust Spreads

White pines are so much a part of high mountain scenery that the spread of *Cronartium ribicola* (white pine blister rust) is causing much concern. The disease is now found as far south as Tuolumne County. Three National Parks now protect selected areas by eradicating all species of Ribes for a few hundred feet around the pines: *Lassen*, 25,000 acres of sugar, Western white, and white bark pines; *Yosemite*, 88,000 acres, all sugar pine, and as yet no high altitude pines are protected; *Sequoia-Kings*, 51,000 acres, high altitude pines. The *State Parks* are preparing to protect the sugar pines of both Bliss and Calaveras State Parks. The *Forest Service* at present protects only stands of commercial timber. The cost of control in California this year will be about \$800,000.

Bright spots in this picture are the slow spread of the disease southward in the dry climate of the Sierra Nevada, and the possibility (according to a recent Forest Service report) that foxtail pine may be resistant, since some healthy trees are found growing among the dying white bark pines on the Marble Mountains.

CICELY M. CHRISTY

Record Budget for State Parks

A YEAR ago we had behind us the Governor's veto of 1955's beaches and parks bill. We had before us the prospect of a better bill which would provide for the acquisition of additional beach and park lands.

As was reported in the May, 1956 *Bulletin*, a budget bill of approximately \$59,000,000 for beaches and parks was passed by the Legislature in April, 1956. The bill, which was later signed by the Governor, provides for the acquisition of most of the lands included in the State Park Commission's five-year master plan. The funds appropriated amount to more than half of the \$82,000,000 required in the five-year program.

The appropriations were made from accumulated tideland oil royalty funds plus annual revenue of \$600,000 from park operations. The provision for matching funds was not included in this bill as it was in the 1945 appropriation for land acquisition. This should help to secure a better balanced program, since local interest in any given area has recently been not too effective. In the case of Butano Forest, a twenty-year struggle was lost because not enough money was raised locally. A total of over \$3,500,000 from the 1945 appropriation reverted to the General Fund on June 30.

Included in the appropriation bill were several projects added by the Legislature to the Commission's recommendations. They accounted for almost \$8,000,000 and included several substandard areas. The Governor, in signing the bill, directed the Commission to study the appropriateness of the Legislature's projects. The Commission, pressed by delegations from Los Angeles County, subsequently approved Puddingstone Reservoir which was considered the most acceptable of these projects. Others were referred back to the staff of the Division of Beaches and Parks for further study.

Additional "lend-lease" funds of \$15,000,000 were approved in the measure. Included were \$5,000,000 for development at Squaw Valley for the 1960 Winter Olympic Games,

\$7,280,000 for flood relief, and \$2,500,000 for parking lot development at Los Angeles Stadium. In all cases, the funds would be used either for improvements which will eventually be transferred to the Division of Beaches and Parks, or the State will be reimbursed from the net proceeds.

At its May meeting, the Commission approved an initial list of 37 acquisition transactions, 17 of which had prior approval. The other 20 were from the five-year master plan. All were chosen on the basis of worth and need. In some instances, as in the case of Mount Tamalpais Park, projects which had been on the master plan were unaccountably omitted from the list. Needless to say, numerous other favorite proposals have been made to the Commission since the master plan was established and since the budget bill was passed. The following statement by the Commission establishes its stand in view of the task ahead in dealing with already approved projects:

As to new proposals for state parks, including those already presented to the Commission, which are not included in the Five-Year Master Plan, it was the sense of the Commission that no new projects should be approved prior to a consideration of all proposals, and that all requests for new projects shall be filed to be reported upon by the staff for Commission action when so ordered by the Commission.

THE ENTIRE Division of Beaches and Parks is in the midst of an expansion period necessitated by its augmented program. Spending \$59,000,000 is no small task. In order to add a safeguard to insure its proper use, the Commission's acquisition projects must be submitted for approval to the State Public Works Board. The Legislature also provided that in future years no more than \$7,000,000 of current oil royalties could be used for beaches and parks, while hitherto 70 per cent of those funds were so earmarked.

Some significant actions by the State Park Commission in 1956 were as follows:

• An application for continued use of an access road through Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park was denied at the May meeting. In September, the use of the access road was allowed, with a price of \$3,750 per year set to be paid for its use.

• An agreement was reached concerning the alignment of the first unit of the Redwood Bypass Highway. Amounting to approximately one-fourth of the 20 miles affecting Humboldt Redwoods State Park, the cost of the section is estimated at \$5,250,000, of which half will be met from appropriated park funds. The new alignment is in the most part either outside the park or in areas of lesser scenic importance. There is one point of serious damage to park values, where the South Fork of the Eel River will be crossed at Dyerville. The line does not involve any wholesale destruction of giant redwoods or of landscape beauty such as would result from heavy freeway construction on the existing road. This is the culmination of ten years of study and conflict, and represents a significant advance in planning for both utilitarian and esthetic values. The present road will become a scenic parkway upon the completion of the bypass.

• Another highway problem is that at Emerald Bay on Lake Tahoe, where rock slides last winter closed Highway 89, which was not cleared until fall. A proposal to bridge the mouth of the bay met stubborn opposition from the Commission, since it would destroy views and landscape beauty in Emerald Bay and D. L. Bliss State Parks and would seriously disrupt existing and proposed campgrounds. The staff of the Division of Beaches and Parks was instructed to cooperate with the highway authority in finding another solution. It is anticipated that in the 1957 session there will be pressure brought on the Legislature in favor of the bridge.

• To the satisfaction of the Division of Beaches and Parks the boundaries of Anza and Borrego Desert State Parks were modified. The modifications were not approved by the Southern Section of the Sierra Club Conservation Committee. A grazing conces-

Commission Jolts San Jacinto Tram

Boosters of the San Jacinto tramway proposal suffered a severe blow on December 21 when the State Park Commission turned down their application for a five-year extension of the Winter Park Authority contract. The motion by Commissioner Kasch pointed out that the Park Commission had already granted one five-year renewal; that it had stipulated that \$1,000,000 in tramway bonds would have to be sold by December 31, 1956; that this had not been accomplished and was not likely to be even if an extension were granted; that the Winter Park Authority Act was permissive, not mandatory, and that the Commission was clearly within its authority in denying the extension, which the Commission thereupon unanimously did.

The conservationist delegation was headed by Alex Hildebrand, club president, who gave a general introductory statement and summation. Among the many spokesmen, E. W. Cunningham expertly presented the legal arguments against renewal, and Nathan Clark the economic arguments—so devastatingly that the entire audience laughed several times at the economic ridiculousness of the tramway proposal.

It is expected that legislation to repeal the Winter Park Authority Act of 1945 will soon be introduced.

sion in Anza Park, noted for its display of desert flora, was renewed for a year.

Financially it has been a good year for State Parks. An alarming aspect, however, is the sectional clamor for slices of the pie, with its inevitable proposals of substandard projects or those of only local interest. The Commission's resistance, though wavering at times, has led to threats of reprisal, including a proposal to abolish it entirely or to reduce it to an advisory body. The realization that there is no integrated, statewide plan for public outdoor recreation has led to a proposed bill to establish a "California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan."

JOHN P. SCHAGEN

Northern Cascades

*Time required for
exploration, study*

FOR MANY years now a handful of experienced mountain travelers have been predicting that the Northern Cascades will some day be recognized as one of the finest mountain regions in the United States. That prediction (and, indeed, some that are more sweeping) is now being fulfilled. Recent visitors are comparing it to the best of other National Forest areas and the National Parks—in comparisons that are altogether favorable to the Northern Cascades.

The general realization of the values of this region has been slow in coming. Some of the reasons are clear. The region is not visible from any major highway. There are other more accessible areas of considerable splendor available in the relatively underpopulated Northwest. The conventional measurement of the scale of mountains, elevations above sea level, is wholly misleading here. Although most of these mountains are between 8,000 and 9,500 feet above sea level, many of them show enormous relief above their adjacent valleys. Very steep rises of six to seven thousand feet are not uncommon. Finally, the economic values of the area have not been great enough to attract more than limited attention until recently.

Values Considered

Nevertheless, it is possible to state in a general way some of the values of the region. The first of these is scenic magnificence. Second is wilderness. Third is great diversity of mountain terrain. Fourth is wildlife.* There are, in addition, the commercial values of timber, mineral, and resort potentials.

The existence of the diverse values in this region underlines the importance of developing an adequate policy for the future of the area. Several attempts to insure its preservation have been made in the past. Several suggestions have been made, beginning at least as early as 1919, for a national park in

the area. The proposals were not supported either by adequate study or by sufficient public information and they died under criticism of local bodies that was equally uninformed and materialistic. In 1939, however, a substantial segment of the most scenic area was proposed as a Wilderness Area under Regulation U-1 of the Forest Service. In the following year, the recommendation was carried out in a preliminary and greatly reduced form. The original tract, which had been defined on the basis of a cursory examination by Bob Marshall, was reduced by more than one-half and the remainder was listed as a Limited Area, a temporary designation used by Region Six of the Forest Service. The reason given for the reduction was the existence of supposedly valuable mineral deposits in certain parts of the original tract.

Reduce Boundaries?

At the present time, the Forest Service is studying this reduced area for determination of boundaries of a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area to be established under order of the Secretary of Agriculture. According to limited information so far available from the Forest Service, the principal study which has been made consists of a series of map overlays indicating conflicts of land use. This is an admirable preliminary step toward determining the area of conflict, but should have little bearing on the pattern of decision. Announcement of the results of the study is expected soon.

Coincidentally with, or in some instances because of the possible change of the area's official status, various commercial interests are hastening their attempts to establish themselves in the area.

Although the concern of the Forest Service to develop a policy for the area deserves commendation and public support, there are serious grounds for believing that any early decision on such a policy would be a mistaken one. The first of these reasons is that the area is too little known either by those who have studied it or by the general pub-

* Since the area has been treated descriptively elsewhere, no attempt will be made to do so here. See Grant McConnell, "The Cascades Wilderness," *SCB*, December, 1956.



LYMAN LAKE, GLACIER PEAK LIMITED AREA

Alfred Schmitz

lic. However thorough the map overlay study may have been, it cannot reveal the potential uses of the area's wilderness and scenic resources. At most it can state the number of visitors who have come to them. Necessarily, these numbers are small. They indicate nothing about future visitors. Neither do they indicate the value of such use.

There are reasons in the growth of population, the acceleration of travel, and the overuse of other scenic areas that lead us to believe that the number of visitors will greatly increase. However, the amount of increase is not easy to predict. No study based upon map examination, moreover, can produce an evaluation of the area's scenic

resources. Such an evaluation can come only from careful on-the-spot examination.

It should be a sufficient caution against precipitate action that a large number of the experienced travelers who have seen parts of the area categorically assert that the region's scenic resources constitute its highest value.

The second of the grounds for avoiding haste of decision is that the area currently proposed for reclassification is much too small. It includes several of the region's most famous spots, including Glacier Peak. However, the area studied is only a small, if integral part of a quite magnificent whole, a whole that also includes other spots of an equal or superior quality. To formulate a

policy in this manner is to fragment this unit and to produce more problems than will be solved by such piecemeal planning. The misleading name of Glacier Peak should probably not be attached to the unit for the unit is far greater and far richer scenically than this name suggests.

The minimum area which should be included for study as a unit should include all the originally proposed Wilderness Area and some small adjacent areas as well. An ideal study unit would also include the large tract now in the North Cascade Primitive Area.

Complex Problems

The third reason for caution is that the area's problems are complex and will not be readily solved by the simple declaration of a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. Wilderness enthusiasts are frequently told that the areas they propose for protection, if as splendid as described, should be made accessible to those unable or unwilling to travel by foot or horse. It seems clear that different groups of travelers have interests in areas of scenic grandeur. As of now, some parts of the Northern Cascades are accessible to easy means of travel and yet remain unspoiled by logging, industrialization, or tawdry resort establishments. The Stehekin Valley is a

prime example of such an area. Yet, the declaration of a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area would leave this splendid valley open to commercial and industrial exploitation, particularly to logging. A wilderness area is an excellent device, but something more is needed to meet the policy requirements of the entire region. Some combination of policies is essential. Such a combination can be developed only through more extensive study and through zoning.

There are several fundamental considerations which must guide the making of any policy and the choice of any administrative form.

The first of these considerations is that the existing wilderness and scenic area must be treated as a unit. There is no area in the United States which compares with this either in concentration of points of scenic grandeur or as coherent and unified wilderness. If the area is fragmented by partial planning, something unique and priceless will be lost. It will also be lost if logging is permitted to follow up any of the long narrow timbered valleys which penetrate the heart of the area from various directions. The timber in these valleys does have some economic value, but it can only be harvested at the cost of destroying the area's unity. Such destruction, in fact, would follow any road building or any commercial intrusion into the area's center.

Trustees' Program

Trustees for Conservation, organized in 1954 to take part in the Echo Park Dam fight, exists primarily to engage actively in legislative contests in which established conservation organizations hesitate to take part because of the risk to their tax-exempt and tax-deductible status.

Although Trustees for Conservation is tax-exempt and gifts to it are tax-deductible, the organization will not hesitate to risk this status when important conservation issues are at stake in legislative contests. Funds for its activities are obtained only by appeals to conservationists.

The Trustees are 51 conservation leaders all over the nation. Ansel Adams is president. Offices are at 251 Kearny Street, San Francisco 8, California.

Timber, Mining

The second consideration which must guide any policy is that the highest values here are scenic and wilderness. Commercial timber does lie in the area, much of it in the narrow valley ribbons. Some mineral does exist at various points. In fact, outcroppings of low grade ore are fairly frequent. More than half a century of exploration, however, has not revealed more than one or two deposits worthy of commercial exploitation by modern methods. Demands for access to unstudied deposits have been made, but the history of mining ventures in the area is so nearly one of unrelieved failure that great caution should be exercised in permitting road building to any of the claims.

Roads have been proposed for some of the
SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN, JANUARY, 1957

most splendid passes. Yet, the nature of these passes is such that building costs would be great and that probably no road over these passes would remain open for more than a few months of any year. The economic justification for these roads would be slight. The process of road building over any of the passes could not help being highly destructive. If there is any necessity for a trans-Cascade road north of Stevens Pass, it should be directed around the core area, probably via the route of Harts Pass.

National Interest

The third consideration is that the national interest in the area is paramount. Certain local demands for exploitation do exist. They are counter-balanced in part by less organized local desires for preservation of the area. Nevertheless, each is less important than the fact that the values of unique scenic beauty and wilderness here are so high that the area is vested with a profound national interest. This is no ordinary playground for nearby communities.

The fourth consideration is that the area is largely unknown. Much of it still needs

mapping, some of it even needs exploration. Moreover, since the American public is as yet largely unaware of its stakes in the area, an adequate opportunity needs to be given for it to learn and to make its own evaluation of these essential intangibles.

Several conclusions follow from these considerations: Although a coherent policy is essential for the Northern Cascades, its development must come in two stages. An interim policy is needed immediately. The terms of this policy are that no invasions of the area by processes destructive to the highest values be permitted, that the integrity of the area as a whole be maintained, and that the area be carefully studied in all its aspects by competent groups drawn from the best available sources, both public and private. The other stage of policy is the final one. Its terms cannot be stated except that the protected area should be large enough and coherent enough and that the protection should be legally adequate.

To follow any other approach is seriously to endanger the national interest.

GRANT MCCONNELL

Wilderness Conference to Meet in March

The Fifth Biennial Wilderness Conference, to be held in San Francisco on March 15 and 16, will bring together notable people who by vocation and avocation are furthering the art of recreation.

A stimulating program is in the making. Papers on various elements of the values and enjoyment of wilderness in the states, the nation, and other countries are being prepared by leaders in this field. Preservation of wilderness and of natural or wild land value is the central theme of the conference.

Each conference has strengthened the fine wilderness program of the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service, and in 1955 there was a recommendation that Congressional action be sought for protection of wilderness. This time there will be an opportunity for an early and full discussion of how the Wilderness System bill under consideration by the 85th Congress can be improved.

Participating will be David R. Brower, national chairman of the Natural Resources Council of America; Harlean James, executive secretary of the American Planning and Civic Association; U. S. Grant III, president, American Planning and Civic Association; Howard Zahniser, executive secretary, The Wilderness Society, and Harold Wagner, secretary-director, Akron Metropolitan Park District. The chiefs of each of the major federal agencies having responsibility for wilderness will take an active part in the program. Talks by officials of the Forest, Park, and Fish and Wildlife Services, and of the Bureaus of Indian Affairs and Land Management, will serve as a basis for general discussion.

The conference will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., March 15.

DORIS LEONARD



Helicopter, with Forest Service observer, hovers over Southern California fire

Fighting Fire from the Air

LAST JULY 5 a helicopter snaked out a thousand feet of fire hose across heavy brush in less than a minute, helping to fight a fire in the San Bernardino National Forest.

It was the first time hose had been laid from the air in actually fighting fire—and the job would have taken six to eight men about two hours if they had stayed on the ground.

In August seven tanker planes began dropping loads of water, or sodium calcium borate solution, on fires throughout the state. They, too, were an innovation in California firefighting.

These two developments point to benefits—even from a strict conservationist standpoint—of the newfangled flying machine that lovers of wilderness have often cursed for its invasions of their cherished solitude.

It is true the airplane is a menace. The Forest Service counts 35 fires started by air crashes since 1941 in Southern California alone.

It is true it has been used for commercial exploitation of areas that used to be safely—and desirably—remote.

But it is also true that the airplane is of great value not only in fighting fires but in carrying supplies to fire lookouts and other guardians of the wild country, rescuing injured and sick people from rugged areas, and in a dozen other ways.

The U.S. Forest Service estimates it has

increased its use of the airplane tenfold in the past five years. With the development of firefighting techniques in the past year, the growth may be even greater in the immediate future.

Last year the Forest Service had six planes of its own in California, and one helicopter. In December it was to receive eight surplus Navy torpedo bombers, suitable as firefighting tankers. This doesn't tell the whole story, though, for three-fourths of the Forest Service aerial operation is contracted to commercial flying services. In fact it was a collection of seven cropdusters with their standard Stearman biplanes who began large-scale tanker operations last summer.

They dropped from 100 to 150 gallons of liquid through a dump valve in the bottom of a belly tank, spreading the water or chemical solution as a rain or heavy mist.

After experience with the tankers in 23 fires during August and September, the Forest Service reported that the sodium calcium borate solution appeared to be more effective than water because its fire-retarding effects continued after the water had evaporated.

It rated the new technique as having "major promise."

It can't often stop the wall of flames at the head of a fire, the experts said, but it can help initial attack crews knock down

small fires, and on big ones it can slow the spread, douse spots where the fire has jumped the firefighters' line, and furnish a measure of safety to men in critical places.

Helicopters, of course, have long been fighting fires—since 1947, in fact—and it is only their use to lay hose that is a rather startling innovation.

Up to now they have been used principally for observation and carrying men and supplies, though they have been used experimentally for direct attack on small fires. In 1955 the Forest Service made more than 1400 flights concerned with fires in California.

Now it is experimenting with converting a helicopter into various sorts of tanker—sometimes with a hose and pump to attack the fire like a ground truck, but with the speed and mobility of wings, and sometimes with a bulk drop tank like that in the big fixed-wing tankers.

Meanwhile, in spite of the defense that

can thus be made of the airplane as a friend of wilderness and the forests, there is a good deal of pressure building up to keep it out unless it has a very good reason to come in—at least during the fire season. Happily, this coincides with the season when undesirable commercial invasions generally occur.

Senator Thomas Kuchel said in November that he had asked the Defense Department and the Civil Aeronautics Authority to consider restricting flying over possible fire areas during the late summer and early fall. And the Air Force said it will confer with the State Department of Natural Resources on the matter.

Even if the airplane can't be abolished, as perhaps a few fiery spirits have wished, the indications are that it can be taught to help, and to keep its place. It has been pretty well tamed since it bucked under the Wright brothers, and now perhaps it can even be forest-broken.

JAMES BENET

New Policy on Salvage Logging

GREATER CONCERN than ever was felt last fall about the salvage logging program in Olympic National Park. This program was conceived five years ago, with the ostensible purpose of removing beetle-infested trees, dead snags considered fire hazards, blown-down trees considered both a fire and insect hazard, and dangerous trees in highly populated areas. Subsequently it was expanded to include removal of log jams which might divert streams, dead trees which if left on river bars and allowed to drift out to sea would be an economic loss, and an occasional tree where necessary to stimulate interest in logging unprofitable areas.

The Park Service felt that it must protect its forests by these means and that profits from the sale of salvaged merchantable timber could be exchanged for private land holdings within the park boundaries.

We gravely feared the implications of a program with such an economic emphasis and foresaw a day when the surrounding communities, unable to reduce the size of the park, might insist upon an annual quota of salvage logs. While we thought the pur-

chase of private lands commendable, we felt that interference with natural processes in a wilderness park could not go unchallenged.

Olympic National Park was established to preserve a living example of nature's magnificence, with green trees which had sprung from the rotting shafts of their dead predecessors, beetles within these trees, birds and other wildlife above, on, and under an undisturbed forest floor traversed by an occasional rushing stream or milky river.

Many avalanches in the back country last winter felled a number of trees, which we were informed would be salvaged to control potential beetle infestation and the logs floated down the rivers. We were appalled at the prospect of a National Park with evidence of logging scattered throughout its "wild" interior.

To investigate the salvage program, and to ascertain how it could be modified to protect the natural values of the park, a Joint Committee on Salvage Logging in Olympic National Park was established. It consisted of representatives from the Sierra Club's Pacific Northwest Chapter, the Mountain-

eers, the Olympic Park Associates, the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and the Seattle Audubon Society.

The Joint Committee inspected several salvage sites, past and present: (1) the area between the north and east forks of the Quinault River, where cat roads, excessively damaged ground cover, immense stumps of Sitka spruce and Douglas fir, much slash, and many damaged and unmerchantable logs were left; (2) the Bogachiel River bars where logging was in progress, and large logs from a jam were being removed, as well as others stranded on gravel bars, live spruce along the bank, and a living Douglas fir 100 feet back from the bank which was 7½ feet in diameter; (3) the clear-cut slope above the Olympic Hot Springs resort area; and (4) an area behind the LaPoel Ranger Station on Lake Crescent with conditions similar to those found in the Quinault area.

There were requests from numerous sources that the National Park Service cease salvage operations in this park. Shortly after Lawrence Merriam, the Regional Director, accompanied the Joint Committee on its second field trip, Park Service Director Conrad Wirth met with the Committee and discussed a new salvage logging policy being drafted by the Park Service. Mr. Wirth said that a calculated risk in antagonizing conservationists had been recognized in initiating salvage logging for acquisition of private holdings.

The new Park Service policy, announced in mid-December, states that the authority of a park superintendent to remove timber is limited to areas designated on the master plan for public use, such as campgrounds, roads and administrative areas, where only such trees will be removed as are absolutely necessary for development and for public safety. Outside these confines, nothing would be removed at all, whether alive or dead, without a specific study and approval by the regional and Washington offices.

The Joint Committee feels that this restrictive policy will do much to protect park wilderness. It is hoped that, even in developed areas, no tree will be removed unless such action is essential.

PAULINE DYER and
PATRICK GOLDSWORTHY

Plans, Counter Plans For Desolation Area

On March 1, the California State Water Resources Board held a public hearing to present its appraisal of the American River Basin and its plan to guide development for water and hydro-power development. The plan included Rockbound Valley within the Desolation Valley Wild Area.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District proposed a counter plan for utilizing some sections of the basin system for municipal power, to begin with developments in Rockbound Valley. The Sierra Club presented a brief, opposing violation of the Wild Area, and urged that this area be continued as a wilderness reserve until all other power sites downstream have been developed.

The Rockbound project adds nothing to the water production and only about three per cent to the power available in the basin. The Wild Area is the only one in this section of the Sierra and is of high scenic and recreational value.

Decision Awaited On Three Sisters

The Secretary of Agriculture still has not announced a decision on the Forest Service recommendation to cut down Oregon's Three Sisters Primitive Area by some 53,000 acres while reclassifying it as a Wilderness Area.

Friends of wilderness are urging that the Secretary reclassify the area intact, or at least defer his decision until new studies are completed. The hearing was held nearly two years ago, and several large parties have explored the country since that time.

Any substantial reduction of this "test case" area would be evidence of the need for congressional protection of wilderness.

The Nature Conservancy has published a series of information bulletins on nature protection in the United States. For a list, write to the Nature Conservancy, 4200 22nd Street, N.E., Washington 18, D.C. Ask for Information Bulletin No. 25.

Trans-Sierran Roads Present Serious Threat

THE DANGER of continued road building in the Sierra is most starkly dramatized by—but not strictly limited to—two trans-Sierran road proposals: one across the southern Sierra between Porterville and Lone Pine; the other, misnamed the Mammoth Pass road, to connect North Fork with Devil's Postpile and Mammoth Lakes.

Both projects have been pushed on and off for over 20 years. Their lack of general acceptance seems mute confirmation that they are unnecessary and undesirable from both conservation and economic points of view. They would serve simply as free access roads for logging interests and provide feathers in the caps of a few county politicians and Chamber of Commerce people who "can get things done," even if the things happen to be wrong.

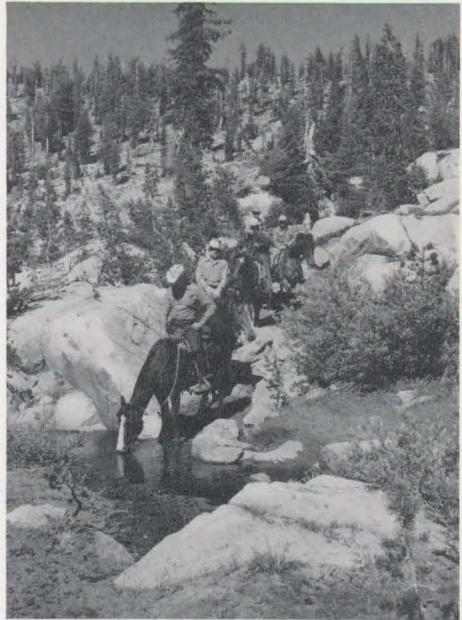
Porterville-Lone Pine Road

If this road were built it would bisect the unique and now unbroken beauty of the upper Kern River country. This area, quite level in many spots, would be exposed to extensive field maneuvers by four-wheel-drive enthusiasts and widespread logging.

The project has so little in its favor that the California Division of Highways, after a survey, announced it would not authorize funds for such a road.

Mammoth Pass Road

The Madera Chamber of Commerce, aided, abetted, advised and encouraged by some Forest Service officials, has been actively pushing the Mammoth road with some success. Last August, representatives of the Forest Service, California Division of Highways and the Bureau of Public Roads voted to make a survey of the economic feasibility of the project. Next summer, this committee will consider its findings and decide whether or not to put the Mammoth road on the forest highway system. If it does, the fight to obtain funds will begin.



*Upper Stairway Creek, San Joaquin country
(George Ballis)*

The Mammoth road would split the corridor between the Mt. Dana-Minarets Wild Area and the High Sierra Wilderness Area. This corridor, as narrow as five miles in one spot, was left in the 1920's specifically for a road—with the Sierra Club's tacit approval. (In 1947, the club directors came out strongly in opposition to all trans-Sierran roads between Tioga and Walker Passes.)

The Mammoth road would result in serious damage to scenic values both in and out of the designated areas. The impact of the road would extend far beyond the right of way as the four-wheel-drive club followed the logging bulldozers into the woods.

Supporters of the road use four arguments to state their case: national defense, loop trip from Los Angeles, commerce and logging. The first three are simply propaganda window-dressing for the fourth, logging.

No one would want to "escape" to the bleak Nevada desert in case of attack, at least not over a narrow road which could be blown into a canyon with half a stick of dynamite and would more than likely be

shrouded in atomic fallout. Truckers would not pull any loads over this road, which admittedly would be low standard. And, even if the road were high standard, it would see very few trucks, for hardly anything is shipped east out of the San Joaquin Valley by truck. There is also little chance that many pleasure drivers would try to negotiate a tortuous trail designed only for logging trucks and other dust-eaters.

Logging is the only reason for the road. The case has been stated to us like this:

"Under present conditions, timber access roads can be built as far as Green Mountain saddle on the west side of the Sierra. Beyond this point, overlooking the North Fork of the San Joaquin River, there is not enough timber to justify timber access roads—but there is marketable timber. We must find a way to get it out. After all, there are a lot of over-mature trees just aching to be harvested. We'll have a route surveyed. Then put the project on the forest highway system. This way we can get money not only from timber sales but also from the Bureau of Public Roads, Division of Highways and two counties—in short, from taxpayers' pocketbooks. Once the main road is in, loggers can bulldoze short spurs to take off the over-mature trees right up to the boundaries of the wild and wilderness areas."

Nobody has ever explained why, if the

timber cannot justify a timber access road, the taxpayers should dish out several millions of dollars to destroy the beauty of their own land—the last remaining great wilderness area in the country—and, at the same time, line the pockets of a lumber company.

Valuable highway money should not be wasted on Mammoth Pass, but should be used to develop and expand the natural and vital strategic and commercial roadways over our mountains such as Highways 40, 50 and 466, our gateways to the east; Highway 152 from the San Joaquin Valley to the Bay Area; Highway 198 from the south central Sierra to the sea and Highway 99 over the Grapevine south of Bakersfield.

Sierra Club Program

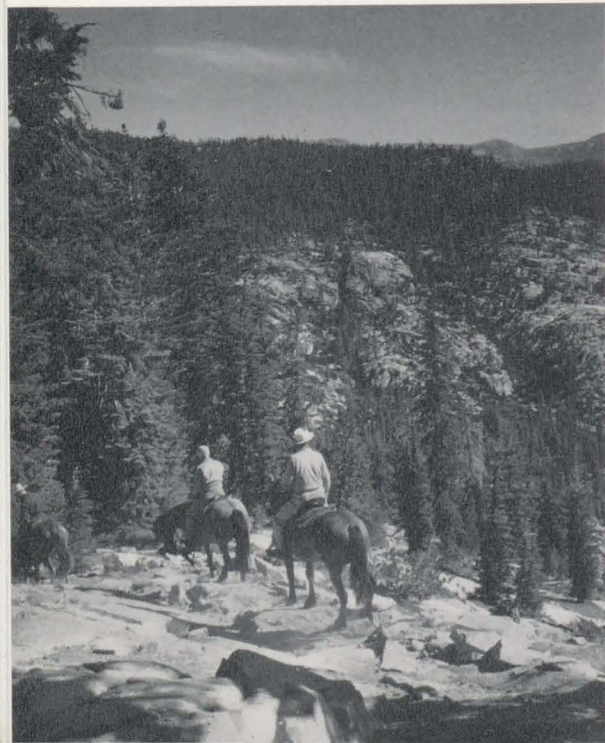
The Mammoth Pass road is unnecessary and undesirable from both conservation and economic points of view. At the same time it is a challenge to the Sierra Club—a challenge and an opportunity for the club to come forward with a comprehensive plan to develop the Sierra region to meet the recreational needs of our rapidly growing state. A twofold, coordinated program is necessary.

1. Strong and continued opposition to any trans-Sierran road between Tioga and Walker passes. An extensive publicity program through the chapters. Tell the general public what's in store for a good chunk of their tax dollars; what stake they have in the Mammoth wilderness. Write our State and Federal legislators. Push for an open and honest discussion of the road proposal. Our greatest danger on Mammoth Pass is that it can easily be okayed behind closed doors by appointive officials, but our legislators can help—if they want to. Let's ask them.

2. Develop and *actively* support programs for expansion of recreational facilities in the Sierra where roads already exist. Some areas to be considered in such a program are:

- a. Chiquito area northeast of Bass Lake.
- b. Expansion of campgrounds and other facilities at Bass Lake, Huntington Lake, Shaver Lake, Florence Lake, Quaking Aspen, Big Meadow, Mineral King, Hume Lake. There's no reason why some land in

*Descending trail into
Snow Canyon, five miles
west of Devil Postpile
(George Ballis)*



At Sheep Crossing,
North Fork of
San Joaquin River
(George Ballis)



these areas couldn't be obtained for state parks on long-term leases from the Federal government.

c. Corps of Engineers' projects such as Pine Flat and Isabella dams. Congressman B. F. Sisk is now pushing for more adequate recreational development on such projects. Let's tell him and other legislators that we support such programs at the same time we ask them to oppose Mammoth Pass road.

Of course, once we embark on the above ventures other ideas will come. Perhaps we will be able to help in the formulation of a realistic, long-range zoning of the Sierra so that we won't have to fight the battle of Mammoth Pass each time a new congressman is elected from central California.

By such a positive program we will be doing a worthwhile service for that great, unorganized mass of our citizens who need more recreational facilities at the reservoirs and the nearest road's end. At the same time we will be creating a favorable climate of public opinion for other Sierra Club ideas. At present many people imagine the Sierra Club dangling from Lost Arrow, scampering up Half Dome on a moonlit night or snow-

shoeing out to Glacier Point in the dead of winter.

It's vitally important that we give these people a more accurate idea of what we seek for ourselves and for them.

GEORGE BALLIS and ROBERT BOARD

I grew up in a generation of writers and artists frantically striving to free themselves from naturalistic form and conscious meaning. And I conclude that wherever and whenever man no longer has a full natural environment on which to feed his sense of beauty he will succumb to dreariness. Think of today's slums and slagheaps, garbage dumps, and polluted rivers. Consider our ruined landscapes, commercially exploited U.S. highways, all the monotonous Levittowns. How avoid the conclusion that too many people and sufficient beauty—natural or manmade—seem incompatible? . . .

. . . Any good society must provide for varying preferences—for crowd-warmth as well as for freedom, nature, natural beauty, privacy, and solitude.

EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER,
in *The Saturday Review*,
December 8, 1956

Chapter Conservation

*Members active
on local issues*

Angeles

A major conservation effort of the Angeles Chapter is under way with the filming of a 20-minute color feature on Mount San Jacinto, a peak which has become a *cause célèbre* among Sierra Club wilderness preservationists. The Executive Committee pledged the necessary funds, some fine talent has been recruited, and most of the shots are on film. Editing, and all the myriad details that go with it, remain to be done.

For the fourth year a booth was equipped and staffed at the Los Angeles County Fair at Pomona, bringing the name of the club before thousands, and detailed information to hundreds who inquired. The Conservation Committee has investigated many current problems, and is now concerned with Catalina Island as a possible State park, fire danger by reason of sloppy slash left by loggers in the San Bernardino Mountains, and other matters. Witnesses were provided for State legislative hearings at Los Angeles, on conservation issues.

Atlantic

After a rather quiet period during 1956, with no pressing local issues, the Atlantic Chapter looks forward to active support of the National Wilderness Preservation System bill in Congress in the coming year.

Kern-Kaweah

The most important new conservation problem suddenly to face the Kern-Kaweah Chapter in 1956 was the Salmon Creek timber sale in the Cannell Meadows Working Circle, a previously unclassified area lying between the north and south forks of the Kern River, in Sequoia National Forest. The chapter had been asked to cooperate with the Southern Section of the club's Conservation Committee in research on the proposed Kern River Wilderness Area (which had been considered as long ago as 1930). Before the surveys could begin, the Forest Service advertised for the sale of timber in Cannell Meadows. Chapter officers, other interested citizens, and members of the Forest Service made a one-day inspection trip of the proposed area. Three meetings were held and various contacts arranged in order to hear both sides of the story and learn the truth of the matter, which is still unsettled. A longer inspection trip of a larger area will be made next June.

Loma Prieta

The conservation and education committees made "Park Needs of the Peninsula" their subject of main concentration during 1956. Wallace Stegner spoke on this topic at a public meeting in Redwood City, and the speech was tape-recorded.

Under the chairmanship of Olive Mayer, a "fact-finding" subcommittee has been set up to gather data on potential park areas. A report on the Stevens Creek area is partially finished; one on the Wickett property (formerly known as Virginia Timbers) is complete. A San Mateo County citizens' group under Jules Eichorn, chairman, and James Dilley, secretary, is in touch with the Board of Supervisors, and several hearings have been held, with good community representation.

Los Padres

Donald Teague studied the danger to condors in the Sespe Wildlife Refuge should the United Water Conservation District decide to construct a road through the refuge. It would be built for hauling materials for construction of the Topa Topa Dam, outside the refuge. The public might also use the dam. Several Sierra Club members, with District Ranger Paul Case, went on a field trip into the area.

Interest also continues in the Thorn Meadows-Alamo Mountain timber sanitation salvage. Lumbering will probably start in the spring on Alamo Mountain, where a timber sale is soon to be made.

Mother Lode

Chairman Luis Ireland is currently making a vigorous effort to reorganize the chapter conservation committee and expand its membership. To divide the work, it is being organized into four groups, concerned respectively with research, conservation education, action, and services.

Because of its location at Sacramento, one of the main services of this chapter is to develop information about actions of the Legislature and of departments of State government which affect conservation. As in past years, the committee screened new bills being introduced into the Legislature, analyzed the provisions and implications of bills of interest, recommended a club position (to the club Conservation Com-

mittee), and followed the progress of a few bills through committee hearings, successive amendments, and the actions taken by each house of the Legislature.

Pacific Northwest

The chapter's major effort has been directed successfully at correcting the undesirable "salvage logging" practices which have prevailed in Olympic National Park for over five years. The details of this effort are more completely described elsewhere in this issue. Field trips and their attendant recommendations concerning the location of a road from LaPush to Lake Ozette along the 25-mile wilderness Olympic Park Ocean Strip have been made and others planned for the future.

The opposition by local legislators and chambers of commerce to "removal of high altitude overnight facilities" from Mount Rainier National Park as provided for in the Mission 66 program were carefully watched. Several meetings on this topic were arranged with Superintendent Preston Macy.

Riverside

Several members of the chapter's conservation committee made a comprehensive study of the San Bernardino National Forest problems under direction of Forest Ranger Dave Tucker. Mr. Tucker pointed out the varied matters which the Forest Service must also consider in any attempt to preserve scenic values: flood control, erosion, mining, skiing, locating of installations for radio, radar, television, telephone and telegraph—all this in addition to the difficulties of timber management and disease, and fire.

A study of the mining situation in Joshua Tree National Monument was undertaken by conservation chairman A. K. Whidden and Avis McMillan.

San Diego

San Diego Chapter happily reports that unique Torrey Pines Park, once threatened with loss of much acreage for a city golf course, has been made a State Park by vote of the people. Many chapter members, and several other organizations worked hard to bring this about. However, the new Park is really a living tribute to the efforts of Guy Fleming, former chapter conservation chairman, who worked literally for decades to bring these world-famed trees under State protection.

San Jacinto and Joshua Tree National Monument will continue as objects of concern, but a recent survey tour of Anza-Borrego State Parks showed that these huge desert areas will make up the biggest conservation problem the chapter will have for years to come. The State Park Commission has proposed an ambitious program of re-defining and consolidating boundaries, which will obviously take a long time. In the meantime, the parks are afflicted with grazing, damaged by jeep caravans, threatened with hunting, and always endangered by the unthinking. They show the great need for ever-increasing efforts in conservation education.

San Francisco Bay

The populous San Francisco Bay region presents a variety of by no means purely urban problems for this chapter conservation committee, which early in 1956 cooperated with other conservation organizations in the establishment of bird sanctuaries on large sections of private lands along the southern end of the bay. The committee studied the work of planning commissions for San Francisco and Alameda counties, and its research into conservation issues at such places as Taylor State Park, Richardson Bay, and Grizzly Island, often resulted in expression of its recommendations to official agencies.

Land acquisition proposals for Mount Tamalpais State Park—which suddenly looks so small with the realization that its surrounding private ranchlands may soon be subdivided—are now one of the chapter's main preoccupations. Members appeared at a State Park Commission meeting to recommend these acquisitions; the Commission stated that funds were not available, although it favored the project in principle. It will now be necessary to urge legislative action.

Tehipite

Conservation education has been the principal focus for Tehipite Chapter during 1956. Leon Thomas, Supervisor of the Sierra National Forest, spoke at one of the dinner meetings on conservation in the forest, and has met with various members in discussions of the Mammoth Pass road, which the club opposes. Another speaker was club director Elmer C. Aldrich, who outlined some of the State's plans for its parks.

At the chapter's annual dinner, a plaque was presented to Mrs. Dale H. Beinhorn of Orosi for her outstanding work in conservation education with school children and clubs in the vicinity of her home.

57's Variety of Summer Outings

Early details of the 1957 summer outings are now available. Naturally, at this early date all of the information is somewhat indefinite; rates have not been set; many final arrangements are yet to be made. But you will find here enough to turn your thinking toward plans for vacationing in the high country—or down a river.

More and more the Outing Committee plans its program in areas of particular interest to conservationists, and arranges its trips to avoid heavy use or activities inconsistent with the wilderness ideal.

The customary caution: do *not* attempt to make reservations for any of these trips before the final announcement appears in the *Bulletin*. There may be changes in dates, and even possibly in locations. This is just an outline on which to hang your summer dreams.

High Trips

There will be two Sierra High Trips, beginning July 8 and July 22. The first will cover the Evolution country, entering over Piute Pass, proceeding south through Evolution Valley and Muir Pass, and leaving via Bishop Pass. The second enters Bishop Pass and moves south through Grouse Meadows, Palisade Lakes, Mather Pass, Upper Basin and out Taboose Pass.

Two out-of-state trips are scheduled, one in Glacier National Park from August 6 to 13, and the other in Grand Teton National Park from August 18 to 25. A special climbing camp is planned in connection with the Teton trip.

Base Camps

The Sierra Base Camp will be in the Ashley Lake-Iron Mountain area, entering from Red's Meadow. There will be three two-week periods, beginning July 7.

Wilderness Base Camp will open July 8 in the Volcanic Lakes-Granite Basin region, and will be limited to 75 people.

A new type of base camp is scheduled for Glacier Peak (Washington), in the Stehekin Valley, limited to 60 people and starting July

22, for ten days. It will feature a combination base camp and knapsack outing, with a base point established, and radial trips conducted from that point for those of the party who wish to participate. Mobile commissary will be set up at all radial camps.

River Trips

Again we will have five trips in Dinosaur National Monument. By special arrangement there will be one down Glen Canyon, starting June 17—the last to be run in this area, since construction of the Glen Canyon dam is now under way. The other four trips will cover the period from June 17 to July 26—about ten days for each. The first two will be down the Yampa and Green rivers, and the last two will make the run through Lodore Canyon down the Green.

Burro Trips

Something new here will be the one-week burro trip, of which there will be two in the latter part of July. Two regular two-week trips are scheduled for August. All will be in the Evolution country.

Family Burro Trips

Two family burro trips will be held beginning July 28 and August 11, each following the same route—entering the Sierra over Kearsarge Pass, proceeding north over Glen and Pinchot passes to Bench Lake, and thence out via Taboose Pass.

Knapsack Trips

Seven knapsack trips are definitely scheduled, with the possibility of one more in the Wind River Range in Wyoming. All of them are in the Sierra, except for an 8-day trip in the Marble Mountains beginning July 13.

Three of the Sierra trips are in the North Fork of the San Joaquin, beginning July 13, 20, and August 17. The first will be for two weeks; the others for eight days each—these latter two are designed for beginning knapsackers. Also for beginners is an 8-day trip in the Mono Recesses. Another two-week outing will start somewhere in Yosemite on August 17, and the last trip will be a 9-day excursion in the North Fork of the Kings River.